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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1199
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

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TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA, AO
SUBJECT: US STATEMENT IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION
OF ANGOLAN COMPLAINT AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF US STATEMENT DELIVERED IN UNSC ON
MAY 5 BY AMBASSADOR JAMES F. LEONARD DURING DISCUSSION OF
ANGOLA'S COMPLAINT AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

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MR. PRESIDENT,

THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS MEETING TODAY TO CONSIDER A MATTER OF UTMOST GRAVITY. SOUTH AFRICA HAS CROSSED AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BORDER AND ATTACKED ANGOLA.

THE ACTION TAKEN IS PARTICULARLY REPREHENSIBLE IN THAT SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCHED ITS ATTACK FROM NAMIBIA, A TERRITORY WHICH IT ILLEGALLY OCCUPIES, AND FROM WHICH IT SHOULD LONG AGO HAVE WITHDRAWN. THIS MASSIVE ATTACK ON A SITE LOCATED SOME 155 MILES NORTH OF THE ANGOLAN/NAMIBIAN BORDER CANNOT BE CONSIDERED ANYTHING OTHER THAN A SERIOUS ESCALATION OF THE LEVEL OF CONFLICT AT PRECISELY THE TIME WHEN SOUTH AFRICA, ABOVE ALL OTHERS, SHOULD BE DEMONSTRATING ITS DESIRE FOR PEACE.

CONSEQUENTLY, THE UNITED STATES JOINS THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL IN CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICA'S ACTION AND IN WARNING SOUTH AFRICA AGAINST ANY REPETITION OF SUCH ACTION.

IN SPEAKING TO THIS ISSUE, MR. PRESIDENT, I MUST EXPRESS MY DEEP DISMAY AT THE SENSELESSNESS OF THE ACTION WHICH WE MEET TODAY TO DISCUSS.
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AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS A SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIA QUESTION IS NEARER THAN EVER BEFORE. SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN COMMENDED PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY FOR ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL OF THE FIVE. THE FIVE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE SWAPO ALSO TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT. HOW IS AN ALREADY SKEPTICAL WORLD TO JUDGE AN ACTION SUCH AS WE HAVE JUST WITNESSED ON THE EVE OF FURTHER AND, WE HOPE, DECISIVE TALKS? SOUTH AFRICA MUST BE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS. ITS COMMENDABLE AGREEMENT TO LEAVE A TERRITORY IN WHICH IT HAS NO RIGHT TO REMAIN AND UNDER TERMS IT HAS NO RIGHT TO DEMAND, HAS MADE NO MORE LEGITIMATE ITS ILLEGAL PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. NOR DOES IT NOW HAVE ANY LICENSE TO RESORT TO MASSIVE VIOLENCE. THE RESORT TO VIOLENCE IS SOMETHING WHICH MY GOVERNMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY DEPLORED AND CONTINUES TO DEPLORE, WHATEVER MAY BE THE JUSTIFICATION WHICH MAY BE PUT FORWARD. IN PARTICULAR, AT THIS DELICATE JUNCTURE SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO EXERCISE UTMOST RESTRAINT, TO GIVE FORCES OF PEACE AN OPPORTUNITY TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THE SITUATION CREATED BY

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SOUTH AFRICA'S OWN MISGUIDED POLICIES.

AT THAT SAME TIME, MR. PRESIDENT, I WISH TO RECALL THAT ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON NAMIBIA CALLED ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESCALATED VIOLENCE IF AGREEMENT WAS NOT REACHED SOON. I WISH TO REPEAT THOSE REMARKS HERE TODAY:

"OUR CONSIDERATIONS HERE DO NOT TAKE PLACE IN A VACUUM. IN RECENT WEEKS THE CYCLE OF REERESSION,

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VIOLENCE, AND THE RESULTING BITTERNESS AND DISTRUST
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HAS CONTINUED AT A DISTURBING PACE. THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING ALONG NAMIBIA'S BORDERS HAS INCREASED MARKEDLY AND FROM ALL INDICATIONS IT WILL INCREASE MORE. THERE IS AN INCREASING TENDENCY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE TERRITORY THROUGH THE BARREL OF THE GUN RATHER THAN THROUGH DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. SCORES HAVE BEEN KILLED. IN ADDITION, AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IS COMMENDABLY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION, IT HAS ONCE AGAIN RESORTED TO THE DEPLORABLE PRACTICE OF POLITICALLY BASED ARRESTS WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL SO THAT TODAY VIRTAULLY THE ENTIRE LEADERSHIP OF SWAPO IN NAMIBIA IS BEING DETAINED."

"IT IS OF LITTLE PRACTICAL VALUE TO ENGAGE IN THE STERILE ARGUMENTS OVER WHICH PARTY SHOULD FIRST CEASE ITS ACTIONS. WE CAN AND SHOULD CALL UPON ALL PARTIES TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT AND TO GIVE THE FORCES OF PEACE A CHANCE. HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE CYCLE OF REPRESSION AND VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AND REPRESSION AND THE INEVITABLE HATRED TO WHICH THEY GIVE BIRTH WILL NOT END UNTIL A COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION IS FOUND. WE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS TO FIND A SOLUTION IF WE ARE TO AVERT THE ADDITION OF STILL FURTHER COMPLEXITIES TO AN ALREADY COMPLEX TASK."

MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIDN THAT THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO PRESS FORWARD IN THE NAMIBIA INITIATIVE, WHICH WE HAVE UNDER-TAKEN WITH OUR COLLEAGUES. WE ARE MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER THAT THE GOAL OF PEACE IN THAT AREA, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HOPES OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA, CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY THE DECISION OF THE PARTIES
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TO MAKE PEACE NOW. WE INTEND TO USE EVERY PRACTICAL MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL TO CREATE CONDITIONS IN THE AREA WHICH WOULD PREVENT THE KIND OF TRAGIC ACTS OF

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VIOLENCE WE HAVE TODAY JOINED IN CONDEMNING. WE WELCOME THE SURGE OF DESIRE FOR PEACE REPRESENTED IN THE ACTION WE HAVE TOGETHER TAKEN IN THE COUNCIL TODAY.
LEONARD

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